

**To:** Washburn, Ben[washburn.ben@epa.gov]  
**From:** Lecci, Stephanie A.  
**Sent:** Tue 2/9/2016 9:39:31 PM  
**Subject:** Just Moms STL attempts to meet with Administrator McCarthy  
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Hi Ben,

It was so nice to meet you face to face last night! I was just wondering if the EPA has a statement on the Just Moms STL group's attempts to get a meeting with Administrator McCarthy. They say they have been trying for two years and keep getting told it's being worked on, but their attempt in DC again today failed.

They say Ms. McCarthy and the EPA have the authority to evacuate residents surrounding Bridgeton and West Lake Landfills because of the health hazards.

Just wanted to be able to include any response in the story for this afternoon, if it's available – thanks!

-Stephanie

Stephanie Lecci

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## ***News That Matters.***

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**From:** Washburn, Ben [mailto:washburn.ben@epa.gov]  
**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 4:53 PM  
**To:** Lecci, Stephanie A.  
**Subject:** RE: West Lake Landfill - MoDNR report

Hi Stephanie,

Here are your questions and responses:

**What does the EPA make of the report's preliminary findings that radiological material was found in soil and dust samples outside of the landfill boundaries?**

The interim report identifies screening results of interest in the general area of what is referred to as the Buffer Zone. The Buffer Zone was previously identified by EPA as part of the West Lake Landfill Superfund site. EPA agrees with MDNR that the field screening observations did not identify any areas of health or safety concern.

**-Does the EPA believe the radiological material from WLL is moving beyond the boundaries? Does this pose a health risk to the public?**

See the answer above.

**-Was the EPA aware the DNR was doing this testing in November? Did it receive this information from the DNR?**

EPA provided support to MDNR in this effort by providing equipment and field support. MDNR provided the field screening results to EPA and we have had multiple conversations with MDNR about the results of the sampling effort.

**-What is the relationship between the DNR's testing and the EPA's own testing? What is the EPA's reaction to the DNR doing its own testing?**

EPA and MDNR are working closely together and are in frequent contact regarding this site. EPA considers all relevant validated scientific information when making decisions regarding the Site, including the data collected by MDNR.

**-When will the EPA be releasing its own final report on the testing its done to see if radiological material has spread outside the landfill boundaries onto surrounding areas, including private property?**

EPA's observations from the sampling event are included in the Interim Report.

There have been a number of significant assessments to determine if radiological material has migrated offsite over the years in the community around the landfill:

- \* The EPA's ASPECT overflight of the Site and nearby residential and commercial/industrial properties in 2013 detected no off-Site excess gamma emissions in surface soil anywhere off-Site, and only on-Site in one small area of OU-1 Area 2 as previously identified in the Remedial Investigation.

- \* Off-Site groundwater sampling by the USGS and the EPA of privately-owned wells to the northwest and southwest of the site in 2013 revealed no radionuclide exceedances of drinking water standards, and to our knowledge there is no use of private wells in the area for drinking water.

- \* Off-site air monitoring sampling by EPA in Spanish Village was completed in July. The sampling was conducted to provide baseline conditions prior to any potential on-site construction or work. EPA's efforts to monitor the air and conduct a thorough scientific analysis are vital to be able to ensure any construction activities are protective of public health. The main effort of EPA's monitoring system was to sample for alpha, beta, and gamma radiation, and typical solid waste landfill gases, including volatile organic compounds (VOCs). The VOC data were consistent with the data collected from the National Air Toxics Trends Sites (NATTS) site on Blair Street in St. Louis. The results of the radiation and VOC data collected provided a sufficient baseline from which to compare any future off-site air monitoring for those compounds.

- \* The MDNR conducted soil sampling in 2005 along St. Charles Rock Road, Boenker Road and Tausig Road just outside Site boundaries and did not detect uranium, thorium, or radium above the cleanup standards.

- \* In addition, the EPA's 2014 Bridgeton Municipal Athletic Complex sampling found no exceedances above background for uranium, thorium, or radium.

- \* Lastly, the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services analyzes ambient air monitoring data for the Bridgeton Landfill collected by the MDNR, and to date the state reports summarizing this analysis do not indicate that there is a potentially unacceptable risk to human health. The data from volatile organic compounds (VOCs), hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S), carbon

monoxide (CO), benzene and gamma radiation monitoring are published daily by the MDNR. Moreover, EPA has completed an offsite air monitoring effort with similar results.

Benjamin M. Washburn

Public Affairs Specialist

EPA Region 7

(913) 551-7364

**From:** Lecci, Stephanie A. [<mailto:leccis@umsl.edu>]

**Sent:** Wednesday, February 03, 2016 10:13 AM

**To:** Washburn, Ben <[washburn.ben@epa.gov](mailto:washburn.ben@epa.gov)>

**Subject:** RE: West Lake Landfill - MoDNR report

Thanks – I appreciate it!

Stephanie Lecci

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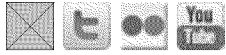
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**From:** Washburn, Ben [<mailto:washburn.ben@epa.gov>]  
**Sent:** Monday, February 01, 2016 8:11 AM  
**To:** Lecci, Stephanie A.  
**Subject:** RE: West Lake Landfill - MoDNR report

Hi Stephanie,

I was out of the office on Friday. I'll see if I can get the responses back to you today.

Thanks,

Benjamin M. Washburn

Public Affairs Specialist

EPA Region 7

(913) 551-7364

**From:** Lecci, Stephanie A. [<mailto:leccis@umsl.edu>]  
**Sent:** Friday, January 29, 2016 10:35 AM  
**To:** 'Washburn.ben@epa.gov'  
**Subject:** FW: West Lake Landfill - MoDNR report

Hi Mr. Washburn,

I just wanted to check in to see if you might be able to give me a response from the EPA on the MoDNR's report, or if you can provide answers to my specific questions below. I know I'd asked for a quick turnaround on those – but my deadline got extended.

Thanks for your consideration of this request,

-Stephanie

Stephanie Lecci

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**From:** Lecci, Stephanie A.  
**Sent:** Thursday, January 28, 2016 10:26 AM  
**To:** 'Washburn.ben@epa.gov'  
**Subject:** West Lake Landfill - MoDNR report

Dear Mr. Washburn,

I am a reporter with St. Louis Public Radio – you may have worked with my colleague

Veronique LaCapra in the past. (She has now left the station, and my colleague Durrie Bouscaren and I will be following up on her environmental beat.)

I wanted to know if the EPA had any response to the Missouri Dept. of Natural Resources' report released earlier this week on testing done back in November on soil and dust samples outside the West Lake Landfill perimeter.

-What does the EPA make of the report's preliminary findings that radiological material was found in soil and dust samples outside of the landfill boundaries?

-Does the EPA believe the radiological material from WLL is moving beyond the boundaries? Does this pose a health risk to the public?

-Was the EPA aware the DNR was doing this testing in November? Did it receive this information from the DNR?

-What is the relationship between the DNR's testing and the EPA's own testing? What is the EPA's reaction to the DNR doing its own testing?

-When will the EPA be releasing its own final report on the testing its done to see if radiological material has spread outside the landfill boundaries onto surrounding areas, including private property?

Thanks so much for your help on this matter. If possible, I would like to get answers to these questions by 3 PM today, but understand if it will take longer. Thanks so much!

-Stephanie

Stephanie Lecci

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